

Appln No. 09/765,535

Amdt date June 30, 2004

Reply to Office action of December 31, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) [~~An electronic~~] A method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs for a user comprising:

an information request step, wherein the user is prompted to enter desired travel product information for a plurality of travel products;

an information receipt step, wherein the desired travel product information is received from a user;

a calculation step, wherein the received information is used to search through a database to determine the cost of the desired travel products; and

a reporting step, wherein the cost of each travel product is reported to the user.

a prompting step wherein the user is prompted to request alternative travel product information; and

an alternative travel request receipt step wherein a user request to receive alternative travel product information is received.

a second calculating step wherein a discount database is accessed to determine alternative travel products to offer the user; and

an alternative travel reporting step wherein alternative travel products are reported to the user.

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2. (Currently Amended) [~~An—electronic~~] The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 1 wherein the reporting step and the alternative travel reporting steps comprise displaying a range of prices for each travel product based upon availability of products from different product providers; and displaying a total price range for all of the requested travel products.

3. (Currently Amended) The [~~An—electronic~~] method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 2 wherein the information request step further comprises prompting a user to select an airline departure date, a departure location, a destination location.

4. (Currently Amended) The [~~An—electronic~~] method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 3 wherein the information request step further comprises prompting a user to select a hotel location and a number of nights to reside at the hotel.

5. (Currently Amended) [~~An—electronic~~] The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 4 wherein the information request step further comprises prompting a user to select a rental car location and a number of days a rental car will be rented.

6. (Currently Amended) [~~An—electronic~~] The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 5 wherein as part of the calculation step, the received duration of time between the airplane departure date and the airplane return date is used to determine the number of nights to reside at the hotel and the number of days a rental car will be rented.

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7. (Currently Amended) The~~[An—electronic]~~—method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 6 wherein as part of the calculation step, the airplane destination city is used to determine the hotel location and the rental car location.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~[An—electronic]~~The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 5 wherein alternative travel products are found by altering at least one of the group consisting of the departure flight city, the departure flight date, the destination city, the return flight date, the number of nights of hotel rental, the type of hotel rented, the number of days of car rental, and the type of car rented to conform to the requirements of at least one discount in the discount database.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~[An—electronic—]~~The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 8 further comprising a prompting step wherein a user is prompted to purchase travel products.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~[An—electronic]~~ A method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 9 further comprising:

a personal information prompting step wherein the user is prompted to enter personal information;

a personal information receiving step wherein personal information is received from a user;

a payment information prompting step wherein the user is prompted to enter payment information;

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a payment information receiving step wherein payment information is received from a user; and

a reservation step wherein travel product providers of the purchased products are contacted, reservations are made, and travel products purchased.

11. (Currently Amended) [~~An electronic~~] The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 10 wherein the information request step further comprises prompting a user to select at least one of the group consisting of a cruise departure date, a cruise departure location, a cruise destination location, a cruise return date, a cruise provider, a cruise ship, a cruise name, and a cruise passenger class.

12. (Currently Amended) [~~An electronic~~] A method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs for a user comprising:

an information request step, wherein the user is prompted to enter desired travel product information for a plurality of travel products;

an information receipt step, wherein desired travel product information is received from a user;

a first calculation step, wherein the received desired travel product information is used to search through a database of travel products to determine the cost of the desired travel products;

a second calculation step, wherein the database of travel products is searched for alterations of the received desired travel product information to take advantage of discounts; and

a reporting step, wherein the cost of each travel product is reported to the user.

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13. (Currently Amended) [~~An electronic~~] The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 12 wherein the information request step further comprises:

prompting a user to enter at least one of the group consisting of desired airline, cruise, train, hotel and car rental information.

14. (Original) A system for determining travel product prices for users comprising:

an information server coupled to a computer network;

a user terminal coupled to the computer network;

a first database coupled to the computer network for storing airplane flight information; and

a second database coupled to the computer network for storing hotel information;

a third database coupled to the computer network for storing rental car information;

wherein the information server is configured to receive requests for information from the user terminal, aggregate airplane flight information from the first database, hotel information stored in the second database, and car rental information stored in the third database, and transmit the airplane flight information, hotel information, and car rental information to the user terminal.

15. (Currently Amended) [~~A~~] The system for determining travel product prices of claim 14 further comprising:

an airplane flight discount database;

a hotel discount database; and

a car rental discount database;

wherein the information server is further configured to obtain discounted travel product information from the airplane

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flight discount database, the car rental discount database, and the car rental discount database; and

wherein the information server is further configured to transmit discounted travel product information to the user terminal.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions including instruction for distributing travel product information, the instruction, when executed by a microprocessor cause the microprocessor to perform the steps of:

requesting desired travel product information for a plurality of travel products;

receiving the desired travel product information;

searching a database of travel product information for travel product information based upon the received desired travel product information;

aggregating travel product information based upon the received desired travel product information and based upon available travel product discounts;

transmitting the aggregated travel product information to the user;

searching a database of travel products;

selecting in the database of travel product discounts alternative travel products to the received desired travel products that qualify for a discount; and

transmitting the alternative travel products to a user.

17. (Currently Amended) A~~n electronic~~ method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs for a user comprising:

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an information request step, wherein the user is prompted to enter desired travel product information for a plurality of travel products;

an information receipt step, wherein the desired travel product information is received from a user;

a calculation step, wherein the received information is used to search through a database to determine the cost of the desired travel products; and

a reporting step, wherein the cost of each travel product is reported to the user;

a second calculating step wherein a discount database is accessed to determine alternative travel products to offer the user; and

an alternative travel reporting step wherein alternative travel products are reported to the user.

18. (Currently Amended) [~~An—electronic—~~]The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 17 wherein the information request step further comprises prompting a user to select attributes for at least one of the group consisting of cruise, airplane, hotel and car rental related travel products.

19. (Currently Amended) [~~An—electronic~~]The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 18 wherein the reporting step comprises displaying a range of prices for each travel product based upon availability of products from different product providers; and displaying a total price range for all of the requested travel products.

20. (Currently Amended) [~~An—electronic—~~]The method performed by a computer for calculating travel costs of claim 18

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wherein the alternative travel reporting step comprises displaying alternative travel products in sets, and displaying a total price range for all of the selected alternative travel products in a given set.